

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 KUWAIT 03243 140930Z  
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PM-04  
NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 PA-01 PRS-01 /058 W  
-----140934Z 060244 /14

P R 140900Z JUN 77  
FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8251  
INFO COMIDEASTFOR  
CINCUSNAVEUR LONDON UK  
USS TRIPPE  
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER  
CNO WASHDC  
WASHDC  
AMEMBASSY MANAMA  
SECDEF WASHDC  
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN  
AMCONSUL DHAHRAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L KUWAIT 3243

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: MILI  
SUBJECT: KUWAIT REQUEST FOR SAR ASSISTANCE  
  
REF: A. KUWAIT 3224 NOTAL  
B. COMIDEASTFOR 140118Z JUN 77 (NOTAL)

1. CO-PILOT OF KUWAIT HELICOPTER WHICH DITCHED  
JUNE 12 IN PERSIAN GULF OFF KUWAITI COAST SURVIVED  
DITCHING AND COMIDEASTFOR OFFICERS WERE PRESENT AT  
DEBRIEFING EARLY JUNE 14. LATTER ARRIVED IN KUWAIT  
JUNE 13 IN RESPONSE TO EMBASSY REQUEST (REF A).  
PILOT AND CREW MAN STILL STRAPPED IN KUWAITI  
HELICOPTER WHEN IT SANK ACCORDING TO SURVIVOR.  
KUWAIT MILITARY STILL SEARCHING WITH BOATS, DIVERS,  
AND AIRCRAFT FOR HELICOPTER UNDERWATER, TO THE  
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PAGE 02 KUWAIT 03243 140930Z

SOUTHWEST OF QARUH ISLAND, OFF THE COAST  
OF SOUTHERN KUWAIT. DURING THE NIGHT OF JUNE 13-14  
COMIDEASTFOR PERSONNEL AIDED KAF TO DEFINE  
COORDINATES OF SEARCH AREA, BUT SINCE SURVIVOR  
REPORTEDLY WAS PICKED UP BY SMALL PRIVATE VESSEL  
AT UNKNOWN LOCATION AFTER SOME 24 HOURS IN WATER,  
THE EXACT POSITION OF THE HELICOPTER DITCHING

IS NOT KNOWN. KAF HAS FOUND GASOLINE SLICK WHICH IT BELIEVES MARKS DITCHING VICINITY.

2. THE GOK HAS REQUESTED THAT THE USS TRIPPE, WHICH ARRIVES IN BAHRAIN FOR REFUELLING MORNING OF JUNE 14, CONTINUE ON TO KUWAIT TO JOIN SEARCH FOR LOST HELICOPTER. COMIDEASTFOR HAS ORDERED TRIPPE TO PROCEED AT BEST SPEED TO CRASH SITE AFTER REFUELLING. TRIPPE HAS ON BOARD A HELICOPTER EQUIPPED WITH METAL DETECTION DEVICE (MAD). WE UNDERSTAND THAT TRIPPE WILL DEPART BAHRAIN FOR CRASH AREA ABOUT 1300 ZULU JUNE 14 AND WILL BE CLOSE ENOUGH TO LAUNCH ITS MAD HELICOPTER BY 1800 ZULU JUNE 14, ALLOWING SEVERAL HOURS OF SEARCH BEFORE DARKNESS JUNE 14.

3. COMIDEASTFOR REPS IN KUWAIT (KAF HEADQUARTERS) WILL BE COMMUNICATING WITH TRIPPE BY RADIO TO COORDINATE US ROLE IN SAR EFFORT.

4. WE UNDERSTAND THAT TRIPPE HAS NO RECOVERY EQUIPMENT SUITABLE FOR RECOVERING HELICOPTER FROM UNDERWATER.  
MAESTRONE

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** HELICOPTERS, AIRCRAFT ACCIDENTS, RESCUE OPERATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 14-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977KUWAIT03243  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770211-0842  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Reference:** 77 KUWAIT 3224  
**Retention:** 0  
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**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 2164495  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** KUWAIT REQUEST FOR SAR ASSISTANCE  
**TAGS:** MILI, KU  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
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